

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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### **ATTENTION BENTON COUNTY RESIDENTS:**

Benton County is attempting to qualify for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs (IOCRA) and is currently seeking grant funding to complete a Comprehensive Land Use Planning Study to be able to complete future infrastructure improvements with possible grant dollars. The CDBG Program is a federally funded grant program intended to benefit a majority of low-to-moderate income persons with various community development public assistance projects such as planning studies, improvements to community centers, fire stations, wastewater, water, roads, bridges, etc..... To receive the federally funded grant dollars, a special income survey must be completed.

If you receive an income survey in the mail from the Benton County Economic Development/ Kristy Jerrell from JERRELL CONSULTING & Grant Administration Services LLC, this means you have been randomly selected to participate in this important process. It is vital that the survey be completed fully and returned in the self-addressed stamped envelope as soon as possible. Please contact Kristy Jerrell, the project's Grant Administrator, at 812-878-0826 with any questions regarding the project or the income survey. Your cooperation concerning this matter is greatly appreciated.

<b>IOCRA Grant Amount</b>	\$40,000 Planning Grant to complete a Comprehensive Land Use Planning Study Project; The Grant program is funded with Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The goal of the program is to encourage communities to plan for long-term community development; this grant is awarded/administered by the Indiana Lt. Governor's Office.
<b>Grant Application Submittal</b>	The first step towards going for an IOCRA grant is to complete a required income survey; As soon as the income survey is completed – if the income survey qualifies Benton County – then the County will submit a grant application to IOCRA; All planning projects must benefit at least 51% low-to-moderate-income individuals but with the new range of error on the calculations of the income survey – applicants must be around a 56% LMI to qualify for applying for IOCRA grants
<b>Certified Grant Administrator</b>	Kristy Jerrell, JERRELL CONSULTING & Grant Administration Services LLC from Terre Haute, Indiana; hired to administer and complete the income survey

County will be applying for the grant officially - shortly after the income survey is completed; we have to complete the income survey in order to apply for the grant.

